

French Reviews the Legislature

By Giles L. French

There is no light on Oscar these nights although he shines in all his glided glory in the early morning sun up there atop the statehouse. He is the replica of the pioneer, of the man who carved this state out of the wilderness with his axe, protecting himself, his family and his possessions with knife and gun meanwhile.

The heritage he left was independence and self reliance and confidence in his abilities. Now those who follow him have leaned on the capitol at Washington forgetting their own independ-

ence so long that his statue cannot be lighted.

The pioneer depends on himself.

Committee work seems to be getting better and house work on bills appears to be more careful than for two or three sessions. During the war legislators became careless; the burden of other cares and duties interfering. Committees were prone to let bills go through with only cursory reading and analysis. Now such sloppy work is being caught on the floor and committees, too, are being more watchful. It is a good sign.

An interim committee has made a report on county salaries which in most instances would greatly increase them. It has now been introduced in the senate and is in the hands of a committee there. In the 22nd district most of the officials would receive

\$3500 per year which is an increase of \$1100 or slightly under 50 percent.

The custom has been for county courts and budget committees to recommend the salary scale which is almost universally approved by the legislature if the report is signed by the local officials. Legislators were tired of the lot of bills about salaries of which they knew nothing and named an interim committee.

There is a considerable difference in the work required of county officials which can hardly be taken care of in a blanket bill and this will presumably be brought to the attention of the legislators. Some counties have a recorder, for instance, who does part of the work of the clerk. The number of deputies varies greatly.

Another move would give to county courts the job of setting pay of county officials, except their own and something like this

may result from the interim committee work.

A bill is ready for introduction by Representatives Peterson and French to change the distribution formula of highway funds to counties. Counties now get 19 percent. The basis for distribution is the number of motor vehicle registrations.

The proposed law would use car registrations, area and miles of primary and secondary highways. Counties in the 22nd district would have their portion of the fund increased three to four times if the bill passed.

Although such a bill has been introduced before it has received little support. Giving it a new chance is that the report of the highway interim committee shows great discrepancies between the "needs" of the counties and the amount of money they have been receiving. This report strengthens the argument of the proponents of the bill for redistribution and some new formula to give additional money to the larger and less populous counties seems entirely possible.

The session has not moved very fast since the first week. Gathering of information by the new members goes on apace but they can hardly expect to learn all about so intricate a business of legislating in a couple of weeks.

The main problem for the legislature to resolve is that of transferring the income and excise taxes to the general fund.

It is agreed that the present "surplus" funds cannot be so transferred because of the opinion of the supreme court last summer. The only way such funds can be used would be by a vote of the people over the six percent limitation.

What will be transferred would be future funds, collected after July 1. If these are so transferred there would be no property offset funds in Oregon and property would be susceptible to a property tax for state purposes. The additional millage would be around 30 which would double many taxes. Pressures of tax spending groups on the legislature would be increased.

Leading the fight is the CIO, the AF of L, the Farmers Union and for a part of the way the

Hi-Ways to Health

By Ada R. Mayne

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS EXCUSE FOR PARTIES

February is a party month—short and full of holidays with lots of decorative ideas for party themes. Lincoln's birthday, St. Valentine's day, and George Washington's birthday, bring to mind log cabins, hearts and flowers, cherries and hatchets all in a jumble. So let's take the famous men this week—with a host of entertainment ideas for each one!

First—Lincoln's birthday. Perhaps this will be limited to a family gathering. A special dessert will remind them of the holiday and will give a festive air to the family meal. Lincoln Pudding is really a good bread pudding made in the usual way, but using only egg yolks. When the pudding is almost done, remove from the oven and spread with grape jelly. Top this with a fluffy meringue made from left-over egg whites. Spread the meringue smooth. For the fancy touch, trace the outline of a log cabin on top with raisins. Pop into the oven again to brown.

Bread Pudding

- 2 cups stale bread crumbs
- 1 quart scalded milk
- 3 eggs
- 1/2 cup sugar
- Grape jelly
- 2 Tbsp sugar for meringue

Soak crumbs in hot milk until soft; then add the egg yolks mixed with 1/2 cup sugar, pour into a baking dish set in a pan of water, and bake in a slow oven (250-255 degrees) about an hour, or until custard is set. When cool, spread a thick layer of the jelly on top. Beat the egg whites until stiff, add the 2 Tbsp sugar gradually, and beat until stiff, spread this meringue on top of the jam and place in the oven until a del-

Grange goes along. Opposing is the wheat league, the Farm Bureau, most business men and nearly everyone who has an interest in the property owner.

It is not a fight that will be easily won and property owners who do not want to pay an additional \$40,000,000 a year (30 mills or more) might begin to worry now when it will do some good. Cussing when they get the tax bill in 1951 will not help.

icate brown. Serve hot or cold with cream.

Another very special, very simple Lincoln's birthday treat is Lincoln log ice cream roll. Ask for it at your ice cream store and serve with homemade chocolate sauce.

Washington's birthday calls for a real party—whether it be a club meeting, afternoon bridge, teen age jamboree or buffet supper for the crowd. You will want to go all out for the patriotic motif on Washington's birthday. Make soldiers for favors—use gumdrops for the body and head, and pipe cleaners for the arms and legs. Place jaunty paper cocked hats on their heads, and toothpick swords in their hands. Tiny paper drums will hold the nuts or mints. And no Washington celebration would be complete without a suggestion of a cherry tree—serve cherry roll for dessert. Chop maraschino cherries into whipped cream and spread between vanilla or chocolate wafers. Let stand in refrigerator several hours, then slice and serve... so easy and so good!

Try a G-T Want Ad for results.

LEX YOUTH ON HIGH SPEED TRANSPORT SHIP

Bernard E. Marshall, machinist's mate, second class, USN, son of K. K. Marshall of Lexington is serving aboard the high speed transport USS Wantuck with the Pacific fleet.

The Wantuck, with other ships of Amphibious Group One, is participating in cold weather operations off the coast of Alaska. Marshall, who entered the Naval service Sept. 18, 1945, received his recruit training at the Naval Training Center, San Diego, Calif.

Before entering the navy he attended Lexington high school.

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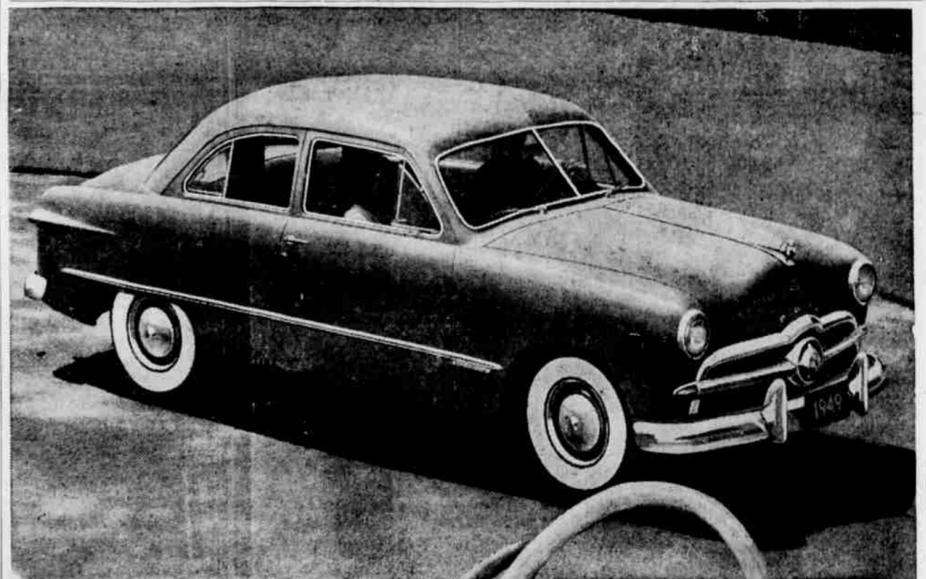


Set the thermostat on your electric water heater at lowest practical temperature. Don't waste hot water. It saves to wash dishes in a pan rather than under running hot water.

Turn your radio off if no one actually is listening to it. Use all appliances carefully, and you'll save electricity and prolong their life.

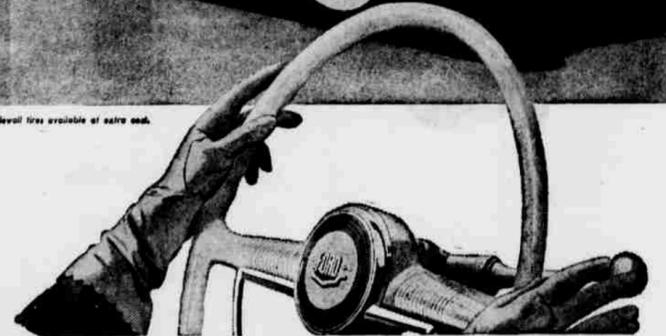
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